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Title: Regarding evolving a mechanism for sharing cess on coal with the coal bearing State.

SHRI BHARTRUHARI MAHTAB (CUTTACK) :The Union Government has enhanced the levy of 'Clean Environment Cess' on coal from Rs. 200 per tonne to Rs. 400 per tonne in the Union Budget 2016-17 despite the fact that the rate of royalty on coal remained unrevised for more than four years. As a result, the coal bearing States are not getting adequate revenue contribution from coal mining sector which they deserve on account of adverse effects of mining such as displacement of people, reduction in forest area, greater risks of environmental pollution and strain on water resources and infrastructure. Thus, the Government of Odisha has requested the Union Government time and again for sharing of at least sixty per cent cess on coal with the coal bearing States. Further, the Government of Odisha has also requested the Union Government that the contribution to District Mineral Foundations (DMF) for coal should be made payable w.e.f 12th January, 2015, the date of enforcement of MMDR Amendment Act, 2015 instead of 20th October, 2015 to ensure that coal bearing States realise full benefits of DMF contribution. I , therefore, urge the Union Government to evolve a mechanism for sharing cess on coal with the coal bearing States to make good their losses on account of adverse effects from the mining sector.